

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8501

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, CH, IN

SUBJ: PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS BY NEW PRC
AMBASSADOR TO INDIA

1. ON THE FIRST DAY OF BUSINESS FOLLOWING MAO'S
FUNERAL, CHINESE AMBASSADOR CH'EN CHAO-YUAN, PRE-
SENTED HIS CREDENTIALS TO INDIAN PRESIDENT AHMED.

2. CH'EN DESCRIBED INDIA AND CHINA AS NEIGHBORS AND
COUNTRIES WITH LONG HISTORIES AND SPLENDED CIVILIZA-
TIONS. THE INDIAN PEOPLE WERE "INDUSTRIOUS AND
BRAVE" AND WERE HELD BY THE CHINESE IN HIGH ESTEEM.
BOTH HAD HAD A PROFOUND MUTUAL FRIENDSHIP SINCE
ANCIENT TIMES, BOTH HAD SUFERED FROM IMPERIALIST AND
COLONIALIST BULLYING AND OPPRESSION, AND BOTH HAD
SYMPATHIZED WITH AND SUPPORTED EACH OTHER IN THEIR
STRUGGLES AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND COLONIALISM.
THERE HAD BEEN SOME "UNFORTUNATE SETBACKS SOME TIME
AFTER ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS", BUT
THE CHINESE WERE HAPPY TO NOTE THAT NORMALIZATION
HAD BEEN ACHIEVED THROUGH JOINT EFFORTS AND WERE
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CONFIDENT HAT "OUR RELATIONS WILL FURTHR IMPROVE."

3. PRESIDENT AHMED OBSERVED THAT DESPITE SETBACKS, INDIA HAD THROUGHOUT REMAINED CONVINCED THAT BOTH COUNTRIES SHOULD DEVELOP FRIENDLY RELATIONS OF MUTUAL RESPECT ON THE BASIS OF THE "FIVE PRINCIPLES." HE REITERATED THE REFERENCE TO THE TWO GREAT CIVILIZATIONS OF ASIA AND NOTED THE LEADERSHIP OF MAO ("IN WHOSE PASSING AWAY WE SHARE THE SORROW OF CHINESE PEOPLE") IN CHINA AND OF MAHATMA GANDHI, UNDER WHOSE LEADERSHIP INDIA HAD STRUGGLED FOR LIBERATION AND INDEPENDENCE. INDIA WAS GLAD THAT RELATIONS HAD NOW BEEN RESTORED TO THE AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL AND HOPED FOR STRENGTHENING OF "FRIENDLY GOOD NEIGHBORLY RELATIONS WITH EACH OTHER."

4. NOTE: MAO'S FUNERAL WAS COMMEMORATED BY LOWERING TO HALF-MAST OF VIRTUALLY ALL WESTERN EUROPEAN FLAGS (INCLUDING US AND CANADA) WHILE SOVIETS (AND OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN EMBASSIES), PAKISTAN, AND NUMBER OF NAM COUNTRIES FLEW AT FULL MAST.
SAXBE

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